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Docket No.: F2108.0041  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Shigeru Nakamura

Application No.: 10/568,984

Filed: February 21, 2006

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: ALL-OPTICAL SWITCH

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

**Timing of Filing of the Information Disclosure Statement:**

- This IDS is being filed before the First Office Action<sup>1</sup>. Copies of the cited ISR documents are not enclosed, as they were provided by the International Bureau.

<sup>1</sup> The IDS should, where possible, include a certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

- This IDS is being filed after the issuance of the First Office Action but before the issuance of a Final Office Action<sup>2</sup>.
- This IDS is being filed after the issuance of a Final Office Action but before the payment of the Final Fee<sup>3</sup>.

**Certifications:**

If checked, the undersigned makes the following statement(s):

- Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; or

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

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<sup>2</sup> The IDS *must* include either a certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

<sup>3</sup> The IDS *must* include both a certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d):

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application less than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

**Fee Required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) or 1.97(d)(2):**

- 
- If checked, the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is attached.

**Copies of Information:**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a), the following are enclosed:

- A legible copy<sup>4</sup> of each document (or relevant portion thereof) is cited in the attached PTO/SB/08.
- With respect to any information which is not in English, a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, is attached.

This concise explanation is provided by way of:

- A translation of the relevant portions of the non-English language information<sup>5</sup>;

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<sup>4</sup> A legible copy of the document is not required if (1) the information was previously cited by, or submitted to, the Office and considered by the Office in a prior U.S. application to which this application claims priority, provided that the prior application is properly identified in this IDS, and (2) the IDS submitted in the earlier application complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) – (c). This exception does not apply to information cited in an International Application.

- A statement explaining the relevant portions of the non-English language information;
  - A copy [and, where not in the English language, a translation] of at least the relevant portion(s)<sup>6</sup> of the communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application in which the information was cited; or
  - This information is contained in the specification of the present application.
- In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), copies of the cited documents are not enclosed as they were provided in application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_, which the present application relies upon for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

**Materiality:**

Whether or not the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement is "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

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<sup>5</sup> 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii) requires that an English language translation be provided when a translation of the document, or portion thereof, "is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)."

<sup>6</sup> The relevant portion is that portion which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. This may be an explanation of which portion of the reference is particularly relevant, to which claims it applies, or merely an "X", "Y", or "A" indication on a search report. MPEP §609 III A(3).

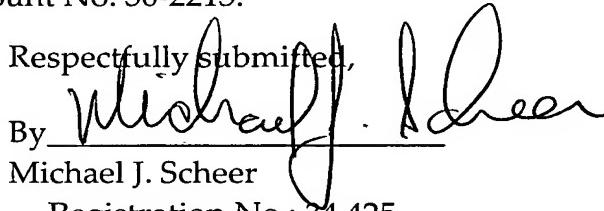
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

In the event the actual fee is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

Dated: March 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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|---------------------------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                   |
|                                 |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/568,984        |
|                                 |   |    |   | Filing Date              | February 21, 2006 |
|                                 |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Shigeru Nakamura  |
|                                 |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | Not Yet Assigned  |
|                                 |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned  |
| Sheet                           | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | F2108.0041        |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number<br>Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                       |   |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |  |   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
| BA                       | -JP 2003-506726       |   | 02-18-2003                     |  |   |
| BB                       | -JP 2003-57695        |   | 02-26-2003                     |  |   |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials               | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.                          |  |  |  |
|                                 | CA                    | Shigeru Nakamura, "Shinki Dosa Joken o Donyu Shita Taisho Mach-Zender-gata Switch ni yoru Bit Rate Muizon NRZ Zenhikarihacho Henkan to Sono Shutsuryoku Hikari Denso Tokusei", The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, Vol. 104, No. 80, pgs. 5-10 (2004) |  |  |  |
|                                 | CB                    | Copy of International Search Report dated November 22, 2004  |  |  |  |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|